

Ohio Commission on Fatherhood
Minutes from the Meeting of Thursday, May 24, 2018

Attendance	
Commissioners	Senator Bill Beagle Deputy Director Kara Bertke-Wente Director Susan Brown Mr. Cedric Collins Representative Hearcel Craig Dr. Mike Davis, PhD Ms. Allison Glasgow Representative Timothy Ginter Mr. Chad Hibbs Representative Darrell Kick Dr. Randy Leite, PhD Mr. Scott Neely Director Ann Ream Mr. Socrates Tuch, Esq. Mr. Tarik White
Presenters	Director Harvey Reed, ODYS Tecca Thompson, ODYS Damita Perry, ODYS Burl Lemon, ForeverDads Steve Stewart, ForeverDads Nick Lyons, ForeverDads Eric Hare, ForeverDads Robin Jack, ForeverDads Coulter McDermott, ForeverDads
Guests	Chip Weiant, GOFBCI Darryl Jones, Legislative Aide
OCF Staff	Director Kimberly Dent Ms. Monica Mahoney Ms. Christina Rogers

I. Call to Order & Welcome New Commissioner	
10:00-10:05	Scott Neely
Vice Chairman, Scott Neely, called the meeting to order and welcomed our guests. When Senator Beagle arrived, he led the meeting from that point forward.	
II. Approval of February 15, 2018 Minutes	
10:05-10:10	Scott Neely
The minutes were approved as submitted.	
III. Voting Executive Board Positions	
10:10-10:20	Monica Mahoney
Monica Mahoney distributed ballots listing the commissioners who agreed to be considered for the OCF Executive Committee. According to the OCF By-Laws, A Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary shall be elected by the commissioners each calendar year.	
IV. June Fatherhood Events	
10:20-10:25	Kimberly Dent
<p>There are several free events happening throughout Ohio during the month of June including several events sponsored by OCF TANF grantees. Director Dent requested that commissioners volunteer to attend the events and share Governor Kasich’s resolution naming June as “Responsible Fatherhood Month.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 9th, 1 PM to 4 PM, Akron: 3rd Annual Father Friendly Community Event • June 9th, Columbus: Action for Children, Father Factor graduation • June 12th, 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM, Zanesville: ForeverDads Celebration • June 15th, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Cleveland: 14th Annual Cuyahoga County Fatherhood Conference • June 16th, noon to 3:00 PM, Ravenna: Passages Fatherhood Celebration • June 16th, 10 AM to 2 PM, Columbus: Columbus Kappa Foundation Father's Day Expo and Community Cookout • June 16th, 10 AM to 2 PM, Columbus: Columbus Urban League Fishing with Dad • June 17th, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Cincinnati: Talbert House Community Fatherhood Celebration • June 22nd, 9 AM to noon, Columbus: Free showing of documentary, "Daddy Don't Go." 	

V. Ohio Department of Youth Services

10:25- 10:50 Director Harvey Reed

Director Harvey Reed, Tecca Thompson (who oversees fatherhood programs) and Damita Perry (who oversees parole) all spoke about current initiatives at ODYS working with young men who are incarcerated and fathers.

Some of the highlights Director Reed mentioned include:

- Visitation is available 7 days a week because connection with family is very important
- 50% of males and over 90% of females are on a mental health caseload
- Trauma-informed treatment and care is the new philosophy at ODYS
- ODYS operates 3 facilities, all at close to capacity (145 to 175 youth)
- 25% of ODYS youth have a family member in prison

The PowerPoint Presentation can be found on the OCF website.

VI. ForeverDads TANF Grantee

10:50- 11:35 Burl Lemon

The following staff from ForeverDads all spoke at the meeting about their roles:

- Robin Jack, administrative assistant
- Eric Hare: class facilitator
- Steve Stewart: job developer
- Nick Lyons: data manager
- Burl Lemon: executive director

A father who graduated from ForeverDads program, Coulter McDermott, spoke about his experience gaining custody of his daughter after she was removed from her mother's home because it was an unsafe environment. He was able to do this because of the guidance and support he received from ForeverDads' staff. Mr. McDermott is training to be a class facilitator at ForeverDads.

ForeverDads recently purchased their building for \$45,000 and raised \$63,000 from the community. June 12th ForeverDads is hosting a building open house and fatherhood celebration for the community. Director Dent plans to attend.

The handouts from ForeverDads can be found on the OCF website.

VII. Voting results

11:35-11:40 Monica Mahoney

The Commissioners voted for the following people to serve on the Executive Committee of the commission:

- Senator Bill Beagle was reelected to serve as Chairman;
- Scott Neely was reelected to serve as Vice Chairman; and
- Joseph Hill was elected to serve as Secretary.

VIII. Announcements and New Business

11:40-11:50 Senator Beagle, Susan Brown

- **Senate Bill 125** Changes in Child Support Laws: Senator Beagle is the primary sponsor of this bill which would update the method of calculating Ohio's child support orders for the first time in since 1992. The bill updates the economic data tables used to calculate child support payments, considering shared parenting arrangements and recognizing that non-custodial parents often provide health insurance for their children. The bill also removes many provisions from the ORC to the OAC so that the economic tables will be easier to update in the future without requiring new legislation. Franklin County CSEA Director Susan Brown collaborated closely with Senator Beagle on this bill. At the time of the commission meeting, the House of Representatives had not yet voted on the bill because the House had suspended consideration of all legislation until a new speaker is selected.

Following the Commission meeting, on June 7th the House voted in favor of the bill and sent it to Governor Kasich for signature.

- Due to scheduling conflicts, the June 21, 2018 Commission meeting was canceled

IX. Executive Director's Report

11:50 – 12:00 Kimberly Dent

Director Dent informed the commissioners that she participated in a phone conference with Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families/Office of Family Assistance regarding decision to move forward with the NBNF grant based on low enrollment numbers at the four partner sites. By agreement, HHS and the State of Ohio agreed to relinquish the NBNF grant and stop enrollment. HHS encouraged ODJFS to reapply for future HMRF funding opportunities to address the same population of fathers as recommended by HHS/Administration for Children and Families /Office of Family and Children.

A copy of the full Executive Director's Report is posted on the OCF website.

X. Adjournment

12:00

The meeting adjourned at noon.